



## NEWSBRIEFS

### Canutillo HS registration

All students are required to register for the 2013-2014 school year in Canutillo ISD. Canutillo High School will hold registration for new students only on Friday August 9, from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. All students will receive their schedule on the designated day and have an opportunity to change it if necessary. There will be no schedule changes on the first day of school. Returning students will register and pick up schedules according to last name. Students should appear by last name. A through M: 8:00 - 11:30 a.m.; N through Z: 12:00 - 4:00 p.m. The dates are: Seniors on Monday, August 12; Juniors on Tuesday, August 13; Sophomores on Wednesday, August 14; and Freshmen on Thursday, August 15: A through M: 8:00 - 11:30 a.m.; N through Z: 12:00 - 4:00 p.m. The Make-Up Day is Friday, August 16 from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (expect long waits). Elementary and middle schools have already hosted their individual registrations. Parents of students at these grade levels who have not registered should contact their school for open registration details. Canutillo Independent School District students begin classes on Monday, August 26. For more information, call 877-7800.

— Kim Guzman

### Scams continue

El Paso Electric advises customers, both residential and commercial, to be aware of nationwide utility scams involving individuals falsely representing utility companies. Customers are contacted over the phone by these swindlers. The swindlers use a device that will make it appear that they are calling from El Paso Electric. These scammers change their technique periodically. Some request personal information or demand payment for a past-due balance, others ask for payments to replace faulty equipment. Most scams require an immediate payment be made using a prepaid card to prevent the service from being shut off. El Paso Electric offers the following tips to customers to protect themselves from the scams:

- Be suspicious of callers asking for a payment using a prepaid debit card. El Paso Electric will accept different payment methods through several authorized payment options, but EPE will not require the use of a prepaid debit card.
- El Paso Electric discourages customers from providing personal and confidential information to any unknown party over the telephone unless the customer initiated the contact.
- Anyone with questions about the authenticity of the call or anyone

See BRIEFS, Page 6

*A minority of the people usually carry a majority of the load.*

— Quips & Quotes

## All San Eli tennis team grads college bound

By Cynthia P. Marentes  
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO – Texas-shaped trophies, gleaming plaques, numerous medals and team portraits fill the office of San Elizario High School (SEHS) Tennis Coach Pete Vasquez but the accomplishment that he is most proud of cannot be displayed on a wall. For Vasquez, the sweetest reward he experienced this year as a coach and educator was watching 13 of his varsity tennis players walk across the graduation stage knowing that each one of them was college bound. Two of those class of 2013 graduates were Stephanie Garcia and Juan Muñoz were recently honored with All-City Tennis Team selections. Vasquez was named All-City Tennis Coach of the Year.

Muñoz was also selected as the District 2-4A Boys MVP will enter the pre-nursing program at the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP). He has been assisting with the tennis camp and also volunteering at Sierra Providence East Medical Center this summer. Although Muñoz has racked up many district tennis titles over the years, receiving the All-City designation brought a sense of fulfillment to his participation in the sport.

“I feel accomplished. I feel I was a good tennis player and they are recognizing me for it,” Muñoz added.

District 2-4A Girls MVP Garcia plans on majoring in computer science at the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) come fall. Like Muñoz, she was amazed to be recognized among the best tennis players in the city.

“I think it’s a big honor because we were the only ones from 2-4A on the list,” Garcia said.

Garcia and Muñoz have been with Coach Vasquez since 6th grade along with the other 11 tennis players who graduated from SEHS this June. As a team they won the 7th and 8th grade middle school conference and amassed eight overall district titles since entering high school, winning all three titles the past two years. Both Garcia and Muñoz state that they will miss their coach and being with the rest of the team because they have shared a long history together out on the tennis court.

“I think we were just like a big family



— Photos courtesy San Elizario ISD

**PROUD MENTOR** – San Elizario High School Tennis Coach Pete Vasquez watched all 13 of his varsity tennis players walk across the graduation stage this year knowing that each one of them was college bound. Vasquez was named All-City Tennis Coach of the Year.

because we bonded and hung out together,” Garcia added.

For Vasquez, who received “Coach of the Year” honors from two entities for the same school year for the second time since 2007, this year’s team will be one he will always remember. Yet, although he will sorely miss his former players, he is already focused on strengthening the SEHS tennis program for next year. With 40 plus years of teaching and coaching students, Vasquez briefly considered retiring at the end of last year but his competitive spirit compelled him to once again transform the Eagles tennis team into a top regional contender.

“We will rebuild this next year and come back strong in two years with a new crop of strong freshmen,” Vasquez stated.

The other varsity tennis players who graduated this spring and the college they will be attending are Diana Diaz, El Paso Community College (EPCC); Albert Luevano, EPCC; Jesus Luevano, EPCC; Andy Melendez, EPCC; Victor Vasquez, EPCC; Jonathan Cardona, UTEP; Sarah Casado, UTEP; Monique Dominguez, UTEP; Ricardo Melendez, UTI; Julian Lopez, Universal Technical Institute-Arizona (UTI); and Eva Duran, UTSA.



**OUTSTANDING** – Juan Muñoz and Stephanie Garcia were recently honored with All-City Tennis Team selections. Muñoz was also selected as the District 2-4A Boys MVP.

## Museum’s guest speaker says climate change not new problem

By Alfredo Vasquez  
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – Climate change and its effects on humans is the topic of discussion for the El Paso Museum of Archaeology’s next special presentation, which is scheduled for 3 p.m., Saturday, August 17, at the museum (4301 Transmountain Road).

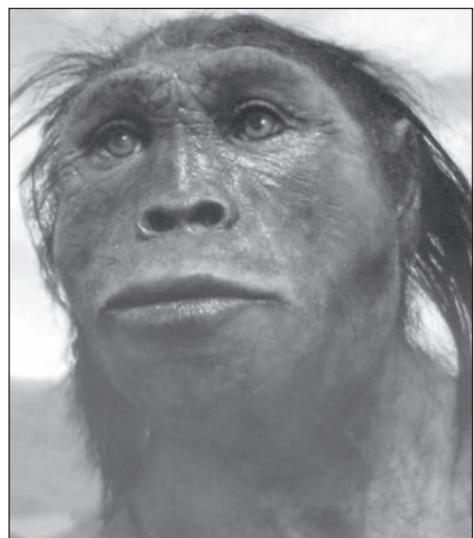
Guest speaker for the special presentation will be Tom Scully, MD, COL, MC, USA (RET). “Climate change has been in the news with increasing frequency in the last few years,” stated Scully, “but climate change is not a new problem; it has happened many times in the past and has had an impact on the development of human behavior and anatomy.”

Scully, who has had an interest in

paleoanthropology for many years, stated that in his presentation the impact of climate change on human origins during the past 4 million years will be described along with the hominids (human ancestors), and how they changed over time until the appearance of modern mankind, known as Homo sapiens.

Scully is a retired Army orthopaedic surgeon; he served at William Beaumont Army Medical Center and at the El Paso Veterans Administration Health Care Center. He and his wife now live on a small farm in the El Paso area.

The climate change presentation, which is free and open to the public, is presented by the El Paso Archaeological Society in partnership with the El Paso Museum of Archaeology. For more information, call 755-4332 or send email to guidamr@elpasotexas.gov.



— Image courtesy of Tom Scully, MD

**GIVE ME A STEAK** – Artist’s image of Homo habilis, first meat eater... According to Dr. Tom Scully climate change has happened many times in the past and has had an impact on the development of human behavior and anatomy.

## Veterans Post By Freddy Groves

# Money for housing

In June, the Department of Veterans Affairs announced that 9,000 veterans would receive vouchers for housing when the VA teamed up with Housing and Urban Development to spend \$60 million for Section 8 housing.

Now the help will be even bigger: \$300 million will put 120,000 at-risk veterans and their families into permanent housing in all 50 states, plus the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. These dollars will be in the form of grants to 319 non-profit organizations that will assist veterans and their families through the Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program. This number is up from last year, when the same grant program helped 50,000 veterans and their families.

Services available through SSVF include health care, daily living, personal financial planning, transportation, fiduciary and payee, legal, child care and housing counseling. Monies will even be available in certain cases for payments to moving companies, utilities and landlords

if it helps the families gain or keep some stability.

If you're a veteran who needs help providing housing for your family, call 1-877-424-3838. You might qualify for help if you're about to become homeless, or if you've just gotten into housing and need some support services to make sure you and your family can remain stable where you are. Don't wait until the last minute.

Or go online to [www.va.gov/homeless/ssvf.asp](http://www.va.gov/homeless/ssvf.asp) and click on FY 13 SSVF Providers for a complete list of the grant-recipient organizations that will run the programs. The list includes the name of each organization, as well as contact information and the geographical area each one covers.

You've earned the benefits and the help.

*Freddy Groves regrets that he cannot personally answer reader questions, but will incorporate them into his column whenever possible. Send email to [columnreply2@gmail.com](mailto:columnreply2@gmail.com). (c) 2013 King Features Synd., Inc.*

## Finances By Jason Alderman

# Steer clear of auto repair scams

If you feel frustrated or intimidated whenever you take your car in for repairs, you're not alone. According to the Federal Trade Commission and the Better Business Bureau, auto repair fraud consistently ranks among the top consumer complaints they receive.

Although most auto repair shops are legitimate, some unscrupulous operators will rip off inexperienced car owners by performing unnecessary or unauthorized repairs, substituting counterfeit or used replacement parts, or even doing such shoddy work that lives are endangered.

Here are tips for becoming a more informed consumer and a few common scams to avoid:

- Try to have a trusted repair shop already lined up before you need one. Ask friends or your auto insurance company for recommendations, or search the Better Business Bureau's website ([www.bbb.org](http://www.bbb.org)) for accredited businesses.

- Ask the state Attorney General's office ([www.naag.org](http://www.naag.org)) whether any complaints have been filed against prospective mechanics.

- Look for mechanics currently certified by the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence ([www.ase.com](http://www.ase.com)) or who belong to your insurer's authorized repair network.

- If your car's warranty is still in force, you may be required to use only authorized dealerships.

- If your car needs major work, gather several estimates for comparison. Once you've chosen a shop, ask for a detailed estimate (with no sections left blank) before you authorize repairs. Specify that you must be called to grant permission before additional repairs.

Make sure the work order clearly specifies:

- Repairs to be done.
- All fees, including parts, labor, storage, loaner car, etc.
- Whether new, reconditioned, or used parts will be used.

Acceptable payment methods.

- Completion date.
- Diagnostic or reassembly charges if you decide to get a second opinion or have the work done elsewhere.

- Make sure the final repair bill contains itemizes all work completed and parts used. (Ask them to show you the work done and replaced parts.) Also have the bill spell out any guaranteed items (including exclusions), in case problems occur later and you need contractual proof.

Watch out for these common scams:

- They give you a verbal estimate then charge a higher price. Always get it in writing.

- A shop lures you in with low-cost specials (oil change, brake inspection, etc.), then pads the work order with other repairs you don't want or need. If in doubt, have the initial work done and get a second opinion on the rest, unless there's an immediate safety issue.

- Charging for services that are covered under the car's warranty. (Always read your warranty carefully.)

- Dishonest mechanics have been known to inflict intentional damage during an inspection in order to boost needed repairs.

- They don't want to return replaced parts to you, which could mean the work wasn't actually done, or they used inferior parts. (Keep in mind that there could be discarded parts lying around that they could pass off as yours.)

- Going against your car manufacturer's recommendations. If your manual recommends getting an oil change every 10,000 miles but the mechanic says every 3,000, make sure there's a good reason.

- Offers to waive the deductible – for example, offering to install a used part and bill your insurance company for a new one. This insurance fraud could land you in a world of hurt.

- High-pressure sales tactics.

Just because you don't completely understand what goes on under the hood doesn't mean you can't protect yourself against auto repair scams. To learn more, visit the FTC's comprehensive Auto Repair Basics site at [www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0211-auto-repair-basics](http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0211-auto-repair-basics).

*Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs.*

**YOUR Gift**  
IS A WAY  
TO CONQUER  
LUNG DISEASE

**AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION**  
of Texas

Give the gift that remembers by helping others ...

When you lose someone dear to you — or when a special person has a birthday, quits smoking, or has some other occasion to celebrate — memorial gifts or tribute gifts made for them to your local American Lung Association help prevent lung disease and improve the care of those who suffer from it.

[www.texaslung.org](http://www.texaslung.org)

**1-800-LUNG-USA**

1973 **WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER** 2013

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Letter must not be more than 250 words in length. They should be dated, must be signed and have an address and daytime phone number. Only the name and city will be printed with the letter. The Courier reserves the right not to print letters to the editor or other submitted materials it considers inappropriate.

**AD DEADLINE:**  
Monday 4 p.m. for Thursday publication.

**CLASSIFIED RATES**  
\$10 for 25 words, \$15 for 40 words. Ad must be in writing and pre-paid. The Courier reserves the right not to print classified advertising it considers inappropriate.

**DISPLAY RATES:**  
Open rate — \$25 per column inch. Call for more information or to set an appointment. The Courier reserves the right not to print advertising it considers inappropriate.

**MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS:**  
Minimum 50 issues for \$36. Delivery via 1st class mail.

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15344 Werling Ct.  
Horizon City, TX 79928

Phone: 852-3235  
Fax: 852-0123  
E-mail: [wtccc@wtccc.com](mailto:wtccc@wtccc.com)  
Website: [wtccc.com](http://wtccc.com)

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# La Fe Clinic breaks ground in San Eli

**By Alfredo Vasquez**  
*Special to the Courier*

SAN ELIZARIO — Construction of a new Centro De Salud Familiar La Fe (La Fe) Clinic is now underway and is expected to be completed by next summer (2014). The 17,000 square foot center will be on 12101 Socorro Road in San Elizario TX.

The newest La Fe clinic will be a state-of-the-art Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) that will provide comprehensive health and human services including medical, dental, social, health-promotion, and disease-prevention, said La Fe CEO Salvador Balcorta MSSW during the groundbreaking event.

“San Elizario is a land rich in history, culture, and the arts. It is an honor for La Fe to stand beside this community's families and children

as we forge a path toward social justice, health care, and well-being,” stated the La Fe CEO.

In 1994, Centro de Salud Familiar La Fe became the first community health-care resource to serve the needs of San Elizario's families, first via a portable medical unit and later at the existing 4,440 square-foot modular San Elizario clinic, located at 1313 San Antonio Street.

The La Fe San Elizario Community-Health Center will be the latest in the organization's El Paso County-wide network of nine primary community health centers. Funding for the new facility — \$4,290,945 — is made possible through the Affordable Care Act, which was signed into law by President Barack Obama in March 2010, according to Estela Reyes Lopez, media relations officer for Centro de Salud Familiar La Fe, Inc.

La Fe, Inc. is an award-winning

and nationally recognized health-care and social-justice nonprofit serving the US-Mexico Border since 1967. It has gained local, state, national, and international recognition for its innovativeness in non-traditional health promotion/disease prevention initiatives and educational programs that advance holistic wellness amongst predominately Mexican-American families, related Reyes Lopez.

La Fe's nine primary health-care centers encompass the Southwest's largest comprehensive HIV/AIDS services facility, the La Fe Child and Adolescent Wellness Center, the La Fe Culture and Technology Center, the San Antonio-based La Fe Policy, Research, and Education Center, the La Fe Preparatory School, and numerous social-justice and community programs that benefit El Paso County families, Reyes Lopez stated.

# Information sought in fatal car crash

CLINT — On May 23, 2013 at approximately 6:00 a.m., El Paso County Sheriff's Deputies were dispatched to the 12000 block of Alameda Ave. in Clint for a rollover collision. Upon arrival, Deputies found a 2006 Chevrolet Cobalt in a farm field and the body of a 43-year-old male victim outside of the vehicle. Further investigation by the El Paso



— Photo courtesy El Paso County Sheriff's Department

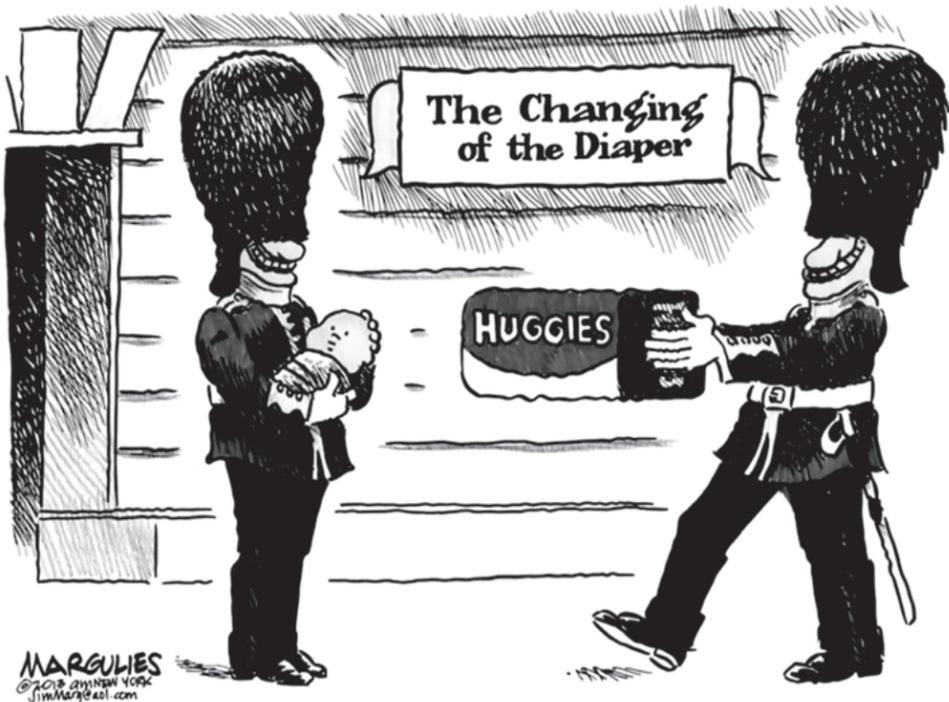
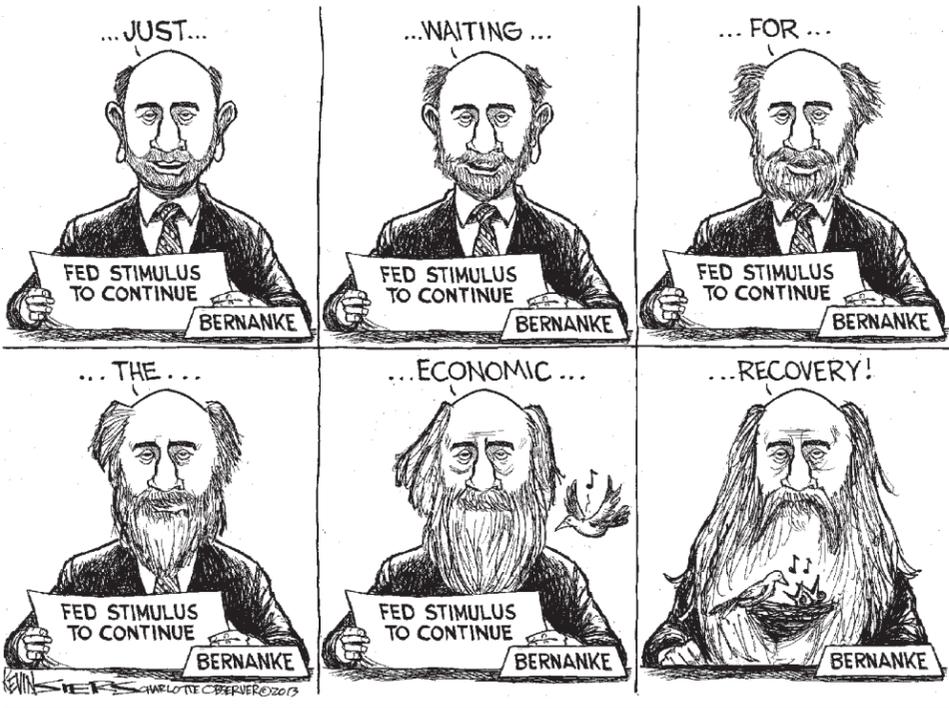
See CRASH, Page 4

**DEADLY WRECK** — The El Paso County Sheriff's department is asking for any information about this fatal accident.

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JOB CREATION and the MAGiC of OBAMACARE



**View from here** By Tim Morstad

**Medicare: Improving lives for 48 years**

July 30 marked the forty-eighth anniversary of Medicare, the national health insurance program for Americans 65 and older, signed into law by Texas' own President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1965 as an amendment to the Social Security Act.

At the signing, President Johnson noted that, "every citizen will be able, in his productive years when he is earning, to insure himself against the ravages of illness in his old age." Indeed, for nearly half a century, Medicare has lifted millions of older Americans out of poverty and has provided them with a safety net that they have rightly earned.

Today, Medicare provides affordable health coverage to roughly 52 million Americans, allowing them to lead more productive lives. Yet Medicare has reached a critical juncture. According to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the Medicare trust fund will be exhausted in 2026. Politicians have used this statistic against millions of Americans who rely on Medicare. If we don't cut benefits for today's retirees, they say, benefits will cease to exist for future retirees.

Two years ago, AARP kicked off a national listening initiative, You've Earned a Say, to ensure the millions of Americans who pay into Medicare have a voice in the debate over its future. Millions of our members have sent a clear message to Washington: We should not balance the federal budget on the backs of our nation's seniors.

Due to rising health care costs and changing demographics, Medicare faces real challenges, and we at AARP are tackling these challenges head on. We've said that we can reduce costs throughout the health care system, by clamping down on high drug prices, by improving care coordination and the use of technology and by cutting over-testing, waste and fraud. These commonsense solutions will ensure the longevity of Medicare so that seniors can continue to receive the affordable health care they deserve.

It's important to note that the Affordable Care Act has already extended the life of Medicare by implementing key reforms that will save \$500

See **MEDICARE**, Page 5

**2013 Property Tax Rates in City of Socorro**

This notice concerns the 2013 property tax rates for the City of Socorro. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

**Last year's tax rate:**

Last year's operating taxes	\$ 3,564,756
Last year's debt taxes	\$ 1,199,780
Last year's total taxes	\$ 4,764,536
Last year's tax base	\$ 842,080,929
Last year's total tax rate	\$ 0.565805/\$100

**This year's effective tax rate:**

Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$ 4,754,926
+ This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	\$ 868,033,151
= This year's effective tax rate	\$ 0.547781/\$100

(Maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings.)

**This year's rollback tax rate:**

Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for any transferred function, tax increment financing, state criminal justice mandate, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures)	\$ 3,557,565
+ This year's adjusted tax base	\$ 868,033,151
= This year's effective operating rate	\$ 0.409842/\$100
<b>x 1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate</b>	<b>\$ 0.442629/\$100</b>
+ This year's debt rate	\$ 0.135218/\$100
= This year's total rollback rate	\$ 0.577847/\$100

**Statement of Increase/Decrease**

If the City of Socorro adopts a 2013 tax rate equal to the effective tax rate of \$0.547781 per \$100 of value, taxes would increase compared to 2012 taxes by \$71,590.

**SCHEDULE A - Unencumbered Fund Balances**

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Funds	Balance
Maintenance & Operation (M&O)	\$ 4,317,754
Debt Service (I&S)	\$ -0-

**SCHEDULE B - 2013 Debt Service**

The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
Cert. Oblig. - 2008	\$ 100,000	\$ 188,491	-0-	\$ 288,491
Cert. Oblig. - 2010	\$ 175,000	\$ 153,100	-0-	\$ 328,100
Cert. Oblig. - 2011	\$ 185,000	\$ 91,750	-0-	\$ 276,750
Cert. Oblig. - 2012	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,450	-0-	\$ 300,450
Total required for 2013 Debt Service				\$ 1,193,791
- Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A				\$ -0-
- Amount (if any) paid from other resources				\$ -0-
- Excess collections last year				\$ -0-
= Total to be paid from taxes in 2013				\$ 1,193,791
+ Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 100% of its taxes in 2013				\$ -0-
= Total Debt Levy				\$ 1,193,791

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates' calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at City of El Paso Tax Office, 221 N. Kansas, Suite 300, El Paso, Texas 79901.

Name of person preparing this notice: **Maria O. Ramos, RTA**  
 Title: **Tax Deputy Administrator** Date prepared: **July 25, 2013**

## San Elizario Independent School District Public Notification of Nondiscrimination in Career and Technical Programs

- 1) The San Elizario Independent School District offers Career and Technical programs in Consumer and Family Science, Business, Cosmetology, Law Enforcement, CISCO Networking, Advertising and Graphic Design, Building Trades and Auto Technology. Admission to these programs is based on course pre-requisite and grade level classifications. For program information call Julian Encina at 872-3939, ext. 3844.
- 2) It is the policy of the San Elizario Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or disability in its vocational programs, services, or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.
- 3) It is the policy of the San Elizario Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap or age in its employment practices as required by title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.
- 4) The San Elizario Independent School District will take steps to assure that lack of English skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all education and vocational programs.
- 5) For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact Superintendent Sylvia Hopp, 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd., Administration Building, San Elizario, Texas 79849, (915) 872-3900. Mail: PO Box 920, San Elizario, TX 79849.

### Notificación Publica de no Discriminar en los Programas de Carrera y Tecnología

- 1) El distrito escolar de San Elizario está ofreciendo programas de carrera y tecnología en Ciencia al Consumidor y Familia, Negocios, Cosmetología, Aplicación de la Ley, Red de Computación CISCO, Publicidad/Promoción y Diseños Graficos, Técnica de Carpentería, y Técnica Mecánica. Para poderse admitir en estos programas tienen que estar registrados en el distrito de San Elizario y completar los requisitos necesarios. Para más información contacto Julian Encina a 872-3939, ext. 3844
- 2) Es la póliza del distrito de San Elizario de no discriminar por causa de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, o deshabilidad en estos programas vocacionales, servicios, o actividades requeridos por el Título IV del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, que fue enmendada, Título IX de las Enmiendas Educativas de 1972, y la Sección 504 de la Acta de Rahabilitación de 1973, como enmendada.
- 3) Es la póliza del distrito de San Elizario de no discriminar por causa de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, deshabilidad, o la edad en sus metodos de empleo exigido por el Título VI del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, enmendada por las Enmienda Educativas de 1972, del Acta de la Discriminación por Edad de 1975, como enmendada, y la Sección 504 de la Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, como enmendada.
- 4) El distrito escolar de San Elizario tomará pasos para asegurar que la falta de ingles no sea obstáculo para la admisión y participación en todos los programas vocacionales y educativos.
- 5) Para más información de sus derechos y procedimiento de agravios, puede ponerse en contacto con el Superintendente Sylvia Hopp, 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd., Administration Building, San Elizario, Texas 79849, (915) 872-3900. Mail: PO Box 920, San Elizario, TX 79849.

WTCC: 08/01/13

## Crash

From Page 2

County Sheriff's Office Special Traffic Investigators revealed the accident had occurred the previous night, May 22, at about 10:00 p.m. Based on the investigation, it was found that the driver/victim was traveling eastbound on Alameda Ave. when the driver lost control and veered to the outside shoulder which then rolled several times ejecting the victim. The victim was pronounced dead on the scene. The victim was identified as Cesar Sandoval of Clint, TX. Sandoval was not wearing a seatbelt. Sheriff's Investigators have information that a car was seen

right around the time of the crash and left the scene without stopping. It is unclear at this time if that vehicle was at all related to the crash or a witness. Deputies are asking the community for any additional information to aid their investigation. Anyone with any information on the crash is asked to call Crime Stoppers of El Paso immediately at 566-8477 (TIPS), on-line at [www.crimestoppersofelpaso.org](http://www.crimestoppersofelpaso.org) or you can send a text message by entering the key word "CRIME1" (no space and include the quotation marks) plus your tip information, and text it to CRIMES (274637). You will remain anonymous and, if your tip leads to an arrest, you may qualify for a cash reward.

- James Klaes

## San Elizario Independent School District Public Notice of Non-Discrimination

It is the policy of the San Elizario Independent School District to prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender or disability in the admission or access to programs, delivery of services or employment.

The San Elizario Independent School District is fully committed to meeting its responsibilities as specified by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; prohibiting sex discrimination, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Inquiries concerning your rights may be referred to Title IX Coordinator: Superintendent Sylvia Hopp, 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd., Administration Building, San Elizario, Texas 79849, (915) 872-3900; or Section 504 Coordinator, 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd., Special Education Office, San Elizario TX 79849, (915) 872-3960. Mail: PO Box 920, San Elizario, TX 79849.

### Notificación Publica

Es la norma de conducta de el distrito escolar de San Elizario prohibir la discriminación a base de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o deshabilidad en la admisión o el acceso a programas, entrega de servicios o empleo.

El distrito escolar de San Elizario esta comprometido a cumplir con las responsabilidades especificadas por el Título VI del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, como enmendado, el Título IX de la Enmienda de Educación de 1972, como enmendado, que prohíbe la discriminación sexual, del Acta de la Discriminación por Edad de 1975, la Sección 504 del Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, como enmendado, y el Acta de Americanos con Deshabilidades.

Para información tocanta a sus derechos comuniquese con la Coordinadora de Título IX: Superintendente Sylvia Hopp, 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd., Administration Building, San Elizario, Texas 79849, (915) 872-3900; o Coordinadora de Sección 504, 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd., Special Education Office, San Elizario TX 79849, (915) 872-3960. Mail: PO Box 920, San Elizario, TX 79849.

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## CryptoQuip Answer

Superman managed to free himself from his outer garment. He called it "the S-cape escape."

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10		21		18	

# Medicare

From Page 3

billion over the next 10 years. From curtailing exorbitant payments to private insurers to cracking down on fraud and abuse, Washington has shown that it can accomplish real savings intelligently and responsibly, without cutting benefits for current or future retirees.

In order to reduce high prescription drug prices, we also must stop pharmaceutical companies from gaming the system. Right now, some brand name drug companies are driving up the cost of health care by entering into agreements with generic drug companies, paying them to delay bringing a competing product to the market.

Moreover, Medicare should be allowed to negotiate with pharmaceutical companies for lower drug costs, which isn't permissible under current law. Allowing Medicare to use the bargaining power of its 52 million beneficiaries to negotiate for lower prescription drug prices, particularly for high-priced brand name drugs, could save money for seniors and reduce the cost of health care.

Improving care coordination is essential to making sure patients receive safe, high-quality care. We can do this by creating systems that better connect doctors and health care facilities and take advantage of advanced information

technology. More effective care coordination will also reduce medical errors and help prevent dangerous, preventable hospital readmissions while also ensuring patients are getting recommended care and saving taxpayer dollars. It is estimated that Medicare could save hundreds of billions of dollars by reducing waste and stepping up fraud detection. For example, Medicare currently pays all health claims and then has to chase down providers if an error or fraud is detected--and too often the improper payment is never recovered. By improving technology, we can flag fraudulent claims before they are paid. We can also use technology to crack down on criminals who file false Medicare claims. By removing personalized information from Medicare identification cards, we can develop new cards that can track and confirm that Medicare is being billed for only those services a patient receives.

The proposals we are advocating for are not gimmicks but solutions that will improve and strengthen Medicare today and for future generations. Medicare has been successful for nearly half a century and is still a success today. If Washington takes the necessary steps, Medicare can be strengthened and improved for the next generation of seniors. By doing so, we can, in the words of President Johnson, "reaffirm the greatness of America."

*Tim Morstad helps outreach efforts for AARP.*

# Canutillo ISD names new administrators

By Kim Guzman  
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO – The Canutillo Independent School District (CISD) has filled two key administrative positions in the District.



Jan Massie

for the past five years. She has a total of 24

years of education experience with 22 being in CISD. Massie earned both her bachelor's and master's degrees in education from New Mexico State University.

Julieta Melendez, currently the assistant principal at Bill Childress Elementary School, is the new Canutillo Elementary School Principal.



Julieta Melendez

Melendez has 18 years experience, including teaching, instructional coordinator and assistant principal, all in CISD. She has both her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Texas at El Paso.

## Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 1 Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 1 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2013 on Wednesday, August 28, 2013, at 11:30 a.m. (CDST), at the offices of TRE & Associates, Inc., located at 5524 Bee Cave Road, Ste. E-2, Austin, TX 78746. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

- FOR** the proposal: **Jack Holford, Dan Roark, Larry Mellenbruch and Ken Mills**
- AGAINST** the proposal: **NONE**
- PRESENT** and not voting: **NONE**
- ABSENT:** **Sid Covington**

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 value)	0.750000/\$100	0.750000/\$100
	Adopted	Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$ 0/\$100
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/-)		0%
Average appraised value	NA	NA
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	NA	NA
Average taxable value*	NA	NA
Tax on average residence homestead	NA	NA
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		NA NA

### NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ROLLBACK ELECTION

If taxes on the average residence homestead increase by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the rollback tax rate under Section 49.236(d), Water Code\*.

\*This District has no residence homesteads.

## 2013 Property Tax Rates in Town of Horizon City

This notice concerns the 2013 property tax rates for the Town of Horizon City. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

**Last year's tax rate:**

Last year's operating taxes	\$ 1,981,027
Last year's debt taxes	\$ 264,283
Last year's total taxes	\$ 2,245,310
Last year's tax base	\$ 695,592,504
Last year's total tax rate	\$ 0.322791/\$100

**This year's effective tax rate:**

Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$ 2,244,293
+ This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	\$ 707,339,189
= This year's effective tax rate	\$ 0.317286/\$100

(Maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings.)

**This year's rollback tax rate:**

Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for any transferred function, tax increment financing, state criminal justice mandate, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures)	\$ 1,980,129
+ This year's adjusted tax base	\$ 707,339,189
= This year's effective operating rate	\$ 0.279941/\$100
<b>x 1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate</b>	<b>\$ 0.302336/\$100</b>
+ This year's debt rate	\$ 0.033318/\$100
= This year's total rollback rate	\$ 0.335654/\$100

### Statement of Increase/Decrease

If the Town of Horizon City adopts a 2013 tax rate equal to the effective tax rate of \$0.317286 per \$100 of value, taxes would increase compared to 2012 taxes by \$44,939.

### SCHEDULE A – Unencumbered Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Funds	Balance
Maintenance & Operation (M&O)	\$ -0-
Debt Service (I&S)	\$ -0-

### SCHEDULE B – 2013 Debt Service

The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
Bond Payable	\$25,000	\$29,626	\$0	\$54,626
Note Payable	\$133,471	\$14,621	\$0	\$148,092
Note Payable	\$36,433	\$1,348	\$0	\$37,781
Total required for 2013 Debt Service				\$ 240,499
- Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A				\$ -0-
- Amount (if any) paid from other resources				\$ -0-
- Excess collections last year				\$ -0-
= Total to be paid from taxes in 2013				\$ 240,499
+ Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 100% of its taxes in 2013				\$ -0-
= Total debt levy				\$ 240,499

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates' calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at the City of El Paso Tax Office, located at 221 N. Kansas, Suite 300, El Paso, Texas 79901.

Name of person preparing this notice: **Maria O. Ramos, RTA**  
Title: **Tax Deputy Administrator** Date prepared: **July 29, 2013**

# Miner players and recruits dropping like flies

By Steve Escajeda  
Special to the Courier

Have you ever watched a Major League Baseball player smash a fastball over the fence?

Of course you have. I've seen guys hit two or three fastballs over the fence for home runs in the same game.

Have you also seen that same player look foolish at the plate when a pitcher throws him a curve ball?

He's expecting the same pitch that he's been clobbering but then that sneaky pitcher changes everything. He throws something different which causes a new "negative" result.

The hitter strikes out and looks at the pitcher as if to say, "I thought we had an agreement."

UTEP Miners basketball coach Tim Floyd, the UTEP Miner basketball players, and the city of El Paso received a curve ball of sorts last week.

In fact, the UTEP basketball program has received an onslaught of curveballs over the last few months.

For a while, the basketball program looked

like it may be the team moving into the new downtown Triple-A baseball stadium the way they were smacking fastballs out of the park – signing top recruit after top recruit.

But as the saying goes, sometimes life throws you a curveball. In UTEP's case, it looks like a few knucklers and splitters have been tossed in as well.

A few months ago it appeared as though the Miners were being molded into the next Butler or VCU or Gonzaga.

You know, the type of team that is bolted into the national spotlight, coming out of nowhere to reach the Top-25 and then advance to the Sweet 16 in the NCAA Tournament, or further.

That's a homerun for any mid-level college basketball program.

But then the curveballs started coming.

A few months ago the Miners learned that potential future star Chris Washburn was transferring to TCU. The younger brother of UTEP's Julian Washburn had made strides as his freshman season progressed but decided to go out on his own.

Then the new guys started to fall one-by-one.

Transfer Jacob Thomas, a 6-4 guard, put

a lot more effort into his basketball skills than his classroom assignments and failed to qualify academically.

It was about a month ago that 6-2 sharp-shooting freshman recruit Andre Spight shot and missed in the classroom as well. He failed to qualify academically which really put the Miners in a hole.

As nasty as the curveballs have been to UTEP, all that pales in comparison to the latest bad news.

It was last November that McDonald's All-American Isaac Hamilton shocked the experts and chose to play with UTEP over the likes of UCLA, UNLV and San Diego State.

His name on the dotted line helped make Tim Floyd's recruiting class one of the most talented in the nation.

Oops, another curveball.

I'm sure everyone reading this has heard that Hamilton has had a sudden change of heart. He has asked for a release of his National Letter of Intent and UTEP has refused to give it to him.

I spoke to Hamilton shortly after announcing his intentions of coming to UTEP and he was as excited as he could be. He told me his main goal was to help put UTEP back on the college

basketball map.

But something happened in the months since that have caused him to reconsider. And depending on whom you speak to, there are a number of possibilities.

Hamilton and his father have announced that he wants to play at USC so that his ailing 85-year-old grandmother can watch him play.

Floyd is suspicious of a new USC assistant coach named Jason Hart, who coached an AAU team which featured a player by the name of... you guessed it... Isaac Hamilton.

When Hart was a high school senior himself he signed with Syracuse but then changed his mind saying that he wanted out because his brother was ill. Sound familiar?

Syracuse refused and he starred there for four years.

Hamilton has appealed UTEP's refusal to let him out of his contract and unless the committee throws UTEP another curveball, the 19-year-old will have to make a decision.

He'll either go to UTEP or sit out the entire season unable to play or even practice with any college.

There's no doubt that UTEP's amazing recruiting class has dropped a grade or two. Hey, maybe it can be graded on a curve.

## A sporting view By Mark Vasto

### Braun over brains

You would think that Milwaukee Major Leagues were really into catching and suspending players who cheat. If there is any sport that has proven itself time and time again

to drop the hammer, it is baseball. Judge Landis and the Black Sox suspensions, Pete Rose's exile from the game and, of late, Manny Rivera and Melky Cabrera's season-ending suspensions are the ones we most remember. But baseball, more than any other sport, will toss you out of a game for arguing balls and strikes.

Yet the sport regularly has dealt with cheating or otherwise lapses of good sportsmanship. The spitballs, the cut baseballs, the Vaseline under the cap, the cork in the bat and the

greenies in the coffee that became the rage after soldiers returned from the war with a taste for speed. Players used to play on cocaine in the '70s... one player even admitted in court that he developed his head-first sliding technique so as not to break the vial in his back pocket.

Braun, thanks to the Major League Baseball Players Association, escapes a lifetime ban by proactively owning up to the fact that he used performance-enhancing drugs. For it is now, during his 65-game suspension without pay (nearly \$4 million large), that he realizes the error of his ways. And, hey... isn't that just the feel-good story of the summer?

"I am deeply gratified to see Ryan taking this bold step," said Mike Weiner, executive director of the players union in a bizarre statement. "It vindicates the rights of all players

under the Joint Drug Program. It is good for the game that Ryan will return soon to continue his great work both on and off the field."

Really? Oh, you mean the work he did being named the most valuable player in the league twice? The work of leading all batters in slugging percentage. The work he did using drugs in order to accomplish? Yeah, you're doing a heck of a job, Brauny.

The only stick this guy should be swinging for the rest of his life should be made of Alaskan Pollock and found in your grocer's freezer, or the ones he can find in a golf bag. But he needs to be careful, too – the rules of golf say that you cannot improve your lie.

Mark Vasto is a veteran sportswriter who lives in Kansas City. (c) 2013 King Features Synd., Inc.

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#### Briefs

From Page 1

representing El Paso Electric may call El Paso Electric's customer service number (915) 543-5970 / (575) 526-5555 or toll free to 1-800-351-1621. This will ensure you are speaking to an El Paso Electric representative.

- Customers can visit El Paso Electric's website, www.epelectric.com, for additional information.

– Teresa Souza

#### Belen elected

Belen Robles, member of the EL Paso Community College (EPCC) Board of Trustees, has been elected to the post of Director for Extra Large Colleges on the Board of Directors of The Community College Association of Texas Trustees (CCATT). CCATT is the statewide organization representing the community college trustees. The Association

focuses on providing resources and training for Texas trustees and on advancing education and increased recognition of the impact of community colleges on the economy of Texas. Robles was the first woman elected National President of the League of United Latin American Citizens. She has extensive experience in border issues because of her 40 years of service in the Immigration and Naturalization Service and United States Customs. Her other accomplishments include: President, International Cultural Institute; Member of the Advisory Board, Wells Fargo Bank; and Director, El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.



Belen Robles

– Jim Heiney

# Comix

## OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



## AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



## THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



## R.F.D. By Mike Marland



# Your good health By Paul G. Donahue, M.D.

**DEAR DR. DONOHUE:** My nose drains so badly when eating that I have to blow it twice before I finish the meal. It's especially disturbing if I eat something warm or steaming. I was given a nasal spray, but it hasn't worked as well as I would like. — S.I.

disrupts life. A specialist can view the bladder with a scope to see if there are changes of the bladder lining that are consistent with interstitial cystitis.

Your condition has a name: gustatory rhinorrhea — a runny nose upon eating. Physically hot foods or spicy foods often trigger it. The spray you mentioned often works well. Astelin nasal spray is an antihistamine that is used before eating that sometimes can control the dripping. So can Flonase intranasal spray, a cortisone product.

Treatment is not with antibiotics. It's not an infection. A number of other medications are used.

If you haven't gotten a definitive diagnosis soon, I'd recommend you see a urologist or a gynecological urologist.

The booklet on urinary tract infections provides a summary of typical signs and symptoms and the appropriate treatment. Readers can order a copy by writing: Dr. Donohue — No. 1204W, Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Enclose a check or money order (no cash) for \$4.75 U.S./\$6 Canada with the recipient's printed name and address. Please allow four weeks for delivery.

**DEAR DR. DONOHUE:** I was diagnosed with a urinary tract infection, and I took antibiotics for a couple of months. I went back to the doctor and tested negative on two occasions, but I still had symptoms of an infection. I have been on an antibiotic, once a day, ever since. I am completely at a loss to know what to do next. Can you offer any suggestions? — J.T.

**DEAR DR. DONOHUE:** I want to ask you about my thyroid. I started to take thyroid medicine for hypothyroidism in 1997 and still take it every morning. My blood tests indicate I am taking the correct dose. How long do I take this medicine? Is it safe? — E.A.

It's not normal to stay on antibiotics for as lengthy a time as you have been on them for a urinary tract infection. It's next to impossible to have a urinary tract infection if the lab cannot substantiate that there is an infection. Ask your doctor if you can go off all antibiotics and then have a microscopic exam of your urine and have the urine cultured for bacteria.

You take thyroid hormone because your thyroid gland doesn't produce enough of it. You are hypothyroid — low in thyroid hormone. Usually this is a lifelong condition, and taking the medicine is only supplying your body with something it needs. It's safe to take forever.

Conditions other than infection can produce symptoms similar to those of an infection — painful and frequent urination. Interstitial cystitis is such a condition. The woman (less often a man) spends much of the day and night dashing to the bathroom to empty her bladder. She does this with urgency to avoid losing urine control. It's something that

Dr. Donohue regrets that he is unable to answer individual letters, but he will incorporate them in his column whenever possible. Readers may write him or request an order form of available health newsletters at P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. (c) 2013 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.

# Super Crossword

### IN AT THE FINISH ACROSS

- 1 Hire new employees for
- 8 Judge the value of
- 14 Percentage on an S&L sign
- 20 Broadcast medium for much news and talk
- 21 Ontario metropolis
- 22 One in a violent mob
- 23 Singer Timberlake on parole?
- 25 1844-59 king of Scandinavia
- 26 Appearance
- 27 Lemon-hued log house?
- 29 Anthropoids
- 33 Another time
- 36 Swann of the NFL
- 37 Actress Ellen's commands?
- 41 Moral reservation
- 47 Bit of a song
- 48 Datum in a used-car ad
- 51 Virgil hero
- 52 Letter #19
- 53 LAX monitor data
- 56 Strip of vertical shiny fabric?
- 58 City south of Moscow
- 59 Whale group
- 60 Longitude's opp.
- 61 \_CIO

- 62 Almost like
- 65 Punk rocker Joey
- 67 Year Bush Jr. took office
- 68 Sending to the canvas, in boxing
- 71 Actor Hoffman cleans the floor?
- 73 Snazzy sleeveless jacket?
- 75 Actor Buddy
- 76 U. URL ender
- 77 Morgan of country music
- 78 Diner's card
- 79 Article in
- 80 The First State: Abbr.
- 81 "How \_ ya?"
- 82 British alphabet enders
- 84 Old Egyptian sultan while still naive?
- 88 Blood fluids
- 89 24-hr. "banker"
- 92 Go downhill
- 93 Used-car-lot transaction
- 95 Virgo-Scorpio link
- 97 Small cafés
- 99 Film critic
- Leonard's booze?
- 102 With 100-Down, "Now hold on just a second!"
- 105 Dike
- 106 Hades river
- 107 Off-white seabird?
- 114 Lohengrin's bride

- 116 Bob Marley's music
  - 117 Sluggers' cholesterol medication?
  - 124 Bassett of films
  - 125 In spite of it
  - 126 Prehistoric Greeks
  - 127 Top dogs
  - 128 Wish
  - 129 Racy genre
- DOWN**
- 1 British rule over India
  - 2 Very big bird
  - 3 Soon-to-be grads: Abbr.
  - 4 Tit-for\_
  - 5 Take \_ view of
  - 6 "\_s Rainbow" (old musical)
  - 7 Precede
  - 8 EarthLink competitor
  - 9 Fr. nun, maybe
  - 10 Don't leave
  - 11 Soften
  - 12 Get bloated
  - 13 "Alas..."
  - 14 Pop top with a crimped edge
  - 15 Frisbee or checker
  - 16 \_Fella Records
  - 17 Run \_ (defer payment)
  - 18 "Mr. Mom" actress Garr
  - 19 Nickname for

- Ireland
- 24 Equips with weapons, old-style
- 28 Carry\_ (flight totes)
- 29 Skilled
- 30 Shells out
- 31 Has it wrong
- 32 Slalom, say
- 34 Meanie Amin
- 35 Eddy and Mandela
- 38 Froster
- 39 British novelist Charles
- 40 Fri.-Sun. link
- 42 Gather leaves again
- 43 Sailor suits, e.g.
- 44 Similar to a wooden pin
- 45 \_di-dah
- 46 N.Y. hours
- 49 "\_ Girls" (CW series)
- 50 Fill with love
- 54 Arctic flier
- 55 Shaded walk
- 57 Employ
- 58 Most frequently
- 59 In demand
- 62 Lemon drink
- 63 Stand in (for)
- 64 Distributors
- 66 Early Ford
- 69 Diarist Anais
- 70 Lions' victim
- 72 More ridiculous
- 73 Ivy League university

- 74 Gibe rudely
- 77 \_ guilt trip on (made feel at fault)
- 83 Painter Salvador
- 84 Pres. after WJC
- 85 Cannes king
- 86 Stir-fry legumes
- 87 River stopper
- 88 Whine tearfully
- 89 Lean against
- 90 Brad Pitt film
- 91 German socialist Karl
- 94 Suffix with Gotham
- 96 Mensa data
- 98 Mu \_ beef
- 100 See 102-Across
- 101 Landlady, e.g.
- 103 Bearer \_ news
- 104 \_ worse than death
- 107 Cranky type
- 108 Gambling city
- 109 Roe, e.g.
- 110 Gets mellow
- 111 Like stallions
- 112 Suffix with 47-Across or 91-Down
- 113 Classic soft drink brand
- 115 \_ cost (for free)
- 118 Pub
- 119 Broke bread
- 120 River isle
- 121 \_chi
- 122 Execs' mag
- 123 Secret govt. group

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**Moore Texas** by Roger Moore **Fleeing the Panic of 1819, many Southerners headed for the opportunities in Mexican Texas. Many painted "GTT" on their abandoned houses... "GONE TO TEXAS"**



**Social Security Q&A** By Ray Vigil

**Young workers need SS credits**

Welcome to the workforce, new workers! Whether you're beginning the career of a lifetime or just earning some extra money for the school year to come, there is one question that is likely to hit you when you see your first pay stub: "What is the FICA, and why is my paycheck less because of it?"

Generally, employers are required to withhold Social Security and Medicare tax from a worker's paycheck. Your employer matches the amounts you pay in Social Security and Medicare taxes. Usually the money we withhold is referred to as "Social Security taxes" on the employee's payroll statement. Sometimes the deduction is labeled as "FICA taxes," which stands for Federal Insurance Contributions Act, and sometimes OASDI, or Old Age Survivor and Disability Insurance. Name aside, what's important is how that money is being used, and what's in it for you down the road.

The taxes you pay now translate to a lifetime of protection, when you eventually retire or if you become disabled. If you die, your dependent children and spouse may be able to receive survivors benefits based on your work. Today you probably have family members – grandparents, for example – who already enjoy Social

Security benefits that your Social Security taxes help provide.

You may be a long way from retirement now, so you may find it hard to appreciate the value of benefits that could be 40 or 50 years away. But consider that your Social Security taxes could pay off sooner than you think. Social Security provides valuable disability benefits – and studies show that a 20-year-old has about a three in 10 chance of becoming disabled sometime before reaching retirement age.

Don't be tempted if you're offered a job "under the table" or "off the books." If you work for any employer who pays you cash, you're likely not getting Social Security credit for the work you're doing and potentially missing out on future benefits.

Want to learn more about Social Security and what it means to young workers? If so, we invite you to enjoy an online video: Social Security 101: What's In It For Me? The webcast will fill you in on the details you should know to get the most out of Social Security. Check it out at [www.socialsecurity.gov/webinars/social\\_security\\_101.html](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/webinars/social_security_101.html).

Here's another tip: open a my Social Security account so that you can access your Social Security Statement. That will allow you

to make sure your earnings are recorded properly each year – and you can get estimates of what your future benefits may be. You can easily open a my Social Security account at [www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount).

If you have questions about Social Security, the best place to go is [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov).

**STRANGE BUT TRUE**  
By Samantha Weaver

• It was George Bernard Shaw who made the following observation: "The longer I live the more I see that I am never wrong about anything, and that all the pains that I have so humbly taken to verify my notions have only wasted my time."

• Modern dietary trends notwithstanding, raw vegetables have not always enjoyed the healthsome reputation they now have. In medieval times, in fact, veggies would always be cooked; raw ones were considered to be bad for the humors.

• Those who keep track of such things say that the Rolling Stones' song "Satisfaction" is played on the radio in the U.S. more than 300 times every day.

• One of the most notorious magic tricks performed by professionals is catching a bullet in the mouth. It's said to be cursed, due to the fact that, over the past 400 or so years, at least 15 magicians have died in the attempt. Some of them mistakenly used live rounds instead of blanks, and one jealous wife swapped out the blanks for live rounds. One of the earliest attempters of the trick was beaten to death by a mob who believed he was in league with the devil. Cursed, though? If someone is trying to catch a bullet in the mouth, it hardly requires a curse to result in a violent end.

• Portland, Ore., could just as easily have been named Boston, Oregon. The two men who named the town couldn't decide which city back east should be the namesake, so they flipped a coin. Portland came up the winner.

• Originally, the best man was supposed to serve as a sort of armed guard, in case the bride needed to be kidnapped from her disapproving parents.

Thought for the Day: "Every American carries in his bloodstream the heritage of the malcontent and the dreamer."  
– Dorothy Fuldheim

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**GO FIGURE!** by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

	x		-		23
x		+		-	
	-		x		15
÷		x		x	
	x		+		15
10		21		18	

**DIFFICULTY: ★★**

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult  
★★★ GO FIGURE!

1 2 3 4 5 5 6 7 9

Answer Page 4

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**Weekly SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

		9			7			4
	2		5	1		9		
3			4					8
7				6				1
	3		7			8		
		5			3		6	2
	6	4		9				1
1			2					5 3
	5				6	4		

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★**

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging

Answer Page 4

★★★ HOO BOY!

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**CryptoQuip**

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: Y equals E

NIMYKGD T GDTDX YQ RJ CKYY

ZSGNYHC CKJG ZSN JIRYK

XDKGYTR. ZY VDH YQ SR

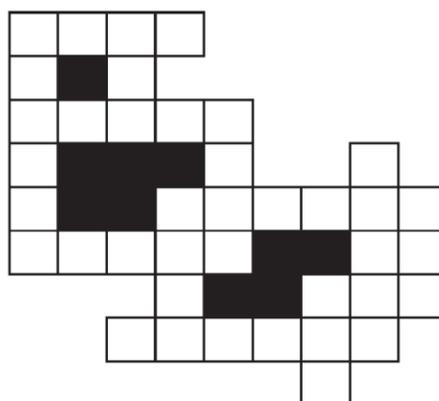
"RZY N-VDMY YNVDMY."

Answer Page 4

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- OBB
- OBNACE
- ♥ ROSNA
- ♥ EDTO
- BASRAC
- ♥ NBA
- ♥ ERBO
- BATOB
- ♥ OBN
- BRETDO
- DORBO
- ♥ NSDA



Answer Page 4

Unscramble these twelve letter strings to form each into an ordinary word (ex. HAGNEC becomes CHANGE). Prepare to use only ONE word from any marked (♥) letter string as each unscrambles into more than one word (ex. ♥RATHE becomes HATER or EARTH or HEART). Fit each string's word either across or down to knot all twelve strings together.

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